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Patent Application
Docket No. GJE-247
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12-31-01
M.L.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Stephen John Clifford Taylor and Philip Alexander Keene
Docket No. : GJE-247
For : Biocatalyst And Its Use In Enzymatic Resolution Of Racemic Beta-Lactams

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

In the Claims

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

Claim 1 (amended):

1. A process for the preparation of an enantiomerically enriched β -lactam, which comprises enantioselective hydrolysis of the corresponding racemic β -lactam in the presence of a lactamase enzyme capable of enantioselective hydrolysis of 3-azatricyclo[4.2.1.0^{2,5}]non-7-en-4-one and 7-azabicyclo[4.2.0]oct-4-en-8-one.

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Claim 2 (amended):

The process according to claim 1, wherein the lactamase enzyme is in isolated and purified form.